

The following news briefs are sent to you by the National Synchrotron Light Source at Brookhaven National Laboratory, Upton, New York www.nsls.bnl.gov

Science Highlight: A Salmonella Invasion Protein that Acts as a "Molecular Staple"

Contact: Erec Stebbins (stebbins@rockefeller.edu)

Salmonella invasion protein A (SipA) is an important virulence factor injected into host cells, where it modulates the cytoskeleton by polymerizing actin. By combining high resolution X-ray crystallography of SipA, reconstructions of electron micrographs of actin-SipA filaments, modeling, and structure-based mutagenesis, we demonstrate that SipA functions as a 'molecular staple,' in which a central globular domain and two non-globular 'arms' mechanically stabilize the filament by tethering actin subunits in opposing strands. For more information, see:

<http://www.nsls.bnl.gov/newsroom/science/2003/12-Stebbins.htm>

Changes in TLD Requirements for NSLS

Contact: Bob Casey (casey@bnl.gov)

Recently, a researcher in another facility at BNL suffered a significant eye injury when he was accidentally exposed to a pulsed high power laser beam. As the result of the accident, all lasers at BNL were shutdown to permit detailed review of operating procedures and training. Although the accident did not take place at the NSLS, it has resulted in extensive discussion of our laser safety program. There are some important points that our users should remember if you plan to bring or use a laser at the NSLS:

<http://www.nsls.bnl.gov/organization/ESH/temp/tldchange.htm>

A Laser Safety Message for All Our Users

Contact: Bob Casey (casey@bnl.gov)

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<http://www.nsls.bnl.gov/organization/esh/Temp/lasersafety.htm>

New Shuttle Service Between Stony Brook University and BNL

Contact: BNL Transportation Office (transportation@bnl.gov)

In response to great interest for easier transportation between Stony Brook University and BNL, a van route has been implemented between the two institutions. Beginning on Monday, December 1, 2003 a trial run of this route is being held through the end of the semester and intersession. Adjustments to the route based on timing and demand will be made for continuation of this service into the spring semester. The van will be limited to 12 passengers on a first come, first serve basis. All passengers on the van must hold a current BNL ID Badge. For more information and the schedule, see:

<https://fsd84.bis.bnl.gov/staffServices/menu/transportation/SBUFlyer.doc>

NSLSUSERS.ORG Network Established

Contact: Alan Levine (alanl@bnl.gov)

The NSLS has created a separate Users network (NSLSUSERS.ORG) which provides an option for users that find it difficult or unable to comply with BNL cybersecurity requirements. The BNL firewall will be configured to treat NSLSUSERS.ORG as an external network. It will be isolated from any BNL computers and information that are not available to the general public. It may be monitored for intrusions but will not have restricted traffic through the use of firewalls, proxies, or similar devices. For additional information, including details about access to the NSLSUSERS.ORG network, see:

<http://www.nsls.bnl.gov/miscellaneous/nslsusers/>

NSLS Image Library No Online

Contact: Steve Giordano (giordano@bnl.gov)

The long-awaited NSLS Image Library is now online. Download photos of the NSLS, logos, banners, and more. The files are available in high-resolution (300 dpi) and low-resolution (72 dpi) format. Anyone with suggestions for other images, please contact the NSLS webmaster, Steve Giordano (giordano@bnl.gov). The Image Library can be accessed from the NSLS homepage (bottom right corner) or directly at: <http://www.nsls.bnl.gov/about/imagelibrary/>

Announcement of Workshop on Ultrafast X-Ray Science

Contact: Steve Leone (Ultrafast2004@lbl.gov)

A Workshop on Ultrafast X-Ray Science will be held April 28 to May 1, 2004 in San Diego, California. The Workshop will bring together the existing ultrafast laser/optical community and the emerging ultrafast x-ray community to discuss scientific highlights and promising new directions for the use of x-ray techniques, to promote cross-fertilization of ideas at the common forefront of the two fields, and to define the source characteristics and ancillary equipment required for productive user facilities. The Workshop will include invited talks, contributed oral presentations, and posters. Submission of an abstract for a contributed oral or a poster presentation are welcome. In addition to the research talks, there will be talks on plans for various facilities as well as coverage of rapidly emerging laser-based techniques, including attosecond processes and measurements. For information on registration and how to contribute an oral presentation or a poster, please visit the Workshop Web Site:

<http://Ultrafast2004.lbl.gov/>

The November Newsletter is now online

The November 2003 issue of the NSLS Newsletter is now available online and in print. To receive a printed copy, please email Nancye Wright at wrightl@bnl.gov. To view and download the online version, go to:

<http://www.nsls.bnl.gov/newsroom/publications/newsletters/2003/03-nov.pdf>

Job Opportunities at the NSLS

A number of scientific and technical job opportunities are available now at the NSLS. See the NSLS web site for details:

<http://www.nsls.bnl.gov/organization/Admin/jobs.htm>

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<http://www.nsls.bnl.gov/newsroom/publications/enews/>

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